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efforts and the judgment as to the probable course of their further development.

Private, Secondary and Higher Commercial Education in America are treated in this order as to history, place and value. The details of the history of the private schools are given rather more fully than is necessary or due. The problems of curricula, relations to other branches of education, the manner of government and support are clearly summarized for each class. Of especial interest is the analysis of the ideals and the methods adopted for their attainment in the principal schools now established. To make complete the information there are added two appendices; the first dealing with statistics, curricula and illustrative examination questions of the various grades of schools; the second with a select bibliography of some three hundred and fifteen references.

The book reveals a most methodical search for and study of all the materials available in this country and Europe. The best has been culled, correlated and marshaled to the purpose of satisfactorily establishing the place and value of commercial education in the world to-day.

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Lydston, G. Frank, (M. D.). *Diseases of Society and Degeneracy.* Pp. ix, 626. Price, \$3.00 net. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1904.

This is one of the most outspoken and frank discussions of social problems I have seen. Because of this and because of the very suggestive and interesting comments of the author it will repay careful study. Intended primarily for professional readers, it is nevertheless easily comprehended by the laity.

The style, although brilliant at times, is open to much criticism. It is verbose, often disconnected and rambling. The author often goes out of his way to make sarcastic flings which in nowise strengthen his argument and extravagant statements abound. There are many seeming contradictions. A more careful editing of the book would have removed many of these and given it greater force.

The author begins by a justified protest against existing primitive measures, but this first chapter on Social Pathology is rambling. In the second chapter on the principles of evolution one expects a clear discussion of the question whether acquired characters are inherited, as this has vast significance for one who seeks to improve conditions. This, however, is lacking, and the chapter is a jumble, with a large element of preaching. Here and elsewhere the careful reader must often ask whether or not social and physical heredity are not confused. Nor does the author cite evidence to justify his belief that acquired traits are transmitted. The biologists who have long hunted for *one* such case would simply have been grateful. Author says (86), "A degeneration of development from the average normal type is the fundamental cause of the majority of the multiform social acts included under the captions of vice and crime. This degeneracy may be

inherited or acquired." (88) "To this common cause may be attributed a large proportion of cases of inebriety, insanity, epilepsy, pauperism and prostitution." (182) "Brain defect of some kind affecting the mental and moral faculties is the *fons origo* of criminality." Thus the author emphasizes the physical basis of crime and atavism constantly tends to destroy the later and higher developments of man which (90) "are as artificial as every other result of adaptation to civilization." To assume then (90) "as a corollary, that normal man is naturally disposed to crime and vice" is either a contradiction in terms or a *reductio ad absurdum*. Equally far fetched is the statement (76) that the filthy habits of imbeciles are due to a reversion to primitive conditions, for under such conditions an imbecile is unthinkable. If these things be true one wants more evidence than is presented to substantiate his claim (on page 402) that there is more of innate, hereditary and acquired depravity to combat in boys than in girls. Nor does the author hold at all strictly to this hereditary basis of degeneration, for he says (142) "the child who does not get proper training, supported by maternal affections, is in danger no matter what his heredity may be." To recognize prostitution of women as the counterpart of crime among men and then to claim (373), "The sexuality of the male has more to do with the primal cause of prostitution than has the degeneracy of the female," is contradictory at least.

Nor can we accept certain other statements of the author. It is surely incorrect to say (127), in discussing race hatred, that here is "no color line" outside the United States. Nor can we agree that (133) the worst feature of immigration is the incoming of persons with ignorant and fanatical social and political notions. Nor is evidence forthcoming that (508) occasional criminals are fewer, habitual criminals more numerous, in Europe than in the United States, or that (78) the type is more fixed in Europe.

In spite of many blemishes the book is of great value. The attempt is made to consider these problems as social products. Anarchy receives suggestive treatment, and the dangerous anarchist is considered to be the man who abuses his power and disregards law, prostituting social institutions for selfish ends. Our "nerve shattering life" is sharply criticized, and its evil tendencies noted. The author views alcohol as a poison, and says (200), "physical degeneracy alone excepted, alcohol is unquestionably the most potent factor in the vice and crime problem." This is too strong a statement with the knowledge we now possess. Drunkenness, the author properly claims, is a disease, not a crime. Pages 302 to 425, on Sexual Vice and Crime, are very important, and society may well take to heart many of Dr. Lydston's statements and his plea for better education and training of the young. Genius and degeneracy are considered as being usually synchronous, not to say synonymous. From page 476 to 555 the author attempts to describe the different types of criminals with indifferent success, it seems to me, although the discussion is interesting and many portraits of criminals are shown. Dr. Lydston believes that Gall's work in localizing brain centres is not yet either appreciated or completed, and when it is done we shall better understand criminals and crime than we do to-day.

The final chapter is on "The Therapeutics of Social Disease." "Society

begins its self-contamination at the marriage license window." More control is here needed and physical fitness is more important than civil fitness. The author makes out a strong case for a sexualization or sterilization of many defectives and criminals. Then the conditions of the poor must be improved and juvenile courts are needed to keep boys and girls from being dealt with as criminals. The author pleads for boys' clubs, etc., although he is seemingly unacquainted with much of the work now being done. In conclusion, a more rational treatment of the criminal is urged and the training such as is given at Elmira, "represents the general plan upon which crime must be combatted if the world is ever to accomplish much in the prevention and cure of the most formidable of all the diseases of society."

With the general thesis of the book and a large percentage of the conclusions the reviewer is in hearty sympathy and heartily commends it to students of social problems.

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Rhodes, James Ford. *History of the United States from the Compromise of 1850*. Vol. V, 1864-1866. Pp. xi, 659. Price, \$2.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1904.

This is the fifth of Mr. Rhodes' volumes on the *History of the United States*. Like the two preceding volumes it covers only about two years of time, so that we are led to believe that if the present proportion is kept up several volumes more are still due before Mr. Rhodes completes his task. The present volume opens with Sherman in camp at Atlanta preparatory to beginning his march to the sea, and closes with the triumph of the Republicans in the Congressional elections of 1866. As a whole, it comes up fully to the high standard set in the preceding volumes. In the treatment of the controversial questions of the time Mr. Rhodes shows the same spirit of impartiality and breadth of view which has won for him the admiration of students. His conclusions are reached only after the most patient and exhaustive examination of all the available material. There is so little to criticise in the volume under review that no effort will be made here to do more than give some idea of the scope of the work and the author's estimates of men and measures.

The description of the march through Georgia is prefaced by an estimate of Sherman, for whose ability as a commander Mr. Rhodes has unstinted praise. The orders to "forage liberally" led to some lawless pillaging and unwarranted burning of buildings, but he thinks Sherman was not responsible. Nevertheless he admits (p. 24) that the immorality and rapacity of the notorious Kilpatrick was "winked at" by Sherman on account of Kilpatrick's efficiency as a commander. Sherman's conduct on the march through the Carolinas, Mr. Rhodes seems to think, is less free from criticism. His "insatiable desire to wreak vengeance" upon the South Carolina aristocrats led to the issue of orders which, though "probably justified from the